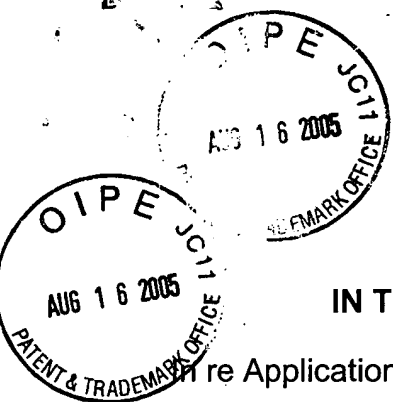


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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 3327.2303-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

Kazuhiko IRISAWA et al.

Application No.: 10/622,495

Filed: July 21, 2003

For: VACUUM ARC DEPOSITION  
APPARATUS

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)  
) Group Art Unit: 1753  
)  
) Examiner: R. G. McDonald  
)  
) Confirmation No.: 5000  
)  
)  
)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

In reply to the Office Action mailed May 23, 2005, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** follow the amendment sections of this paper.